

## REGARDING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF JOE LOUIS' PASSING

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 25th anniversary of the great Joe Louis' passing; which will be commemorated on April 12th of this year in a wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

Even though I was very young, I will never forget sitting with my father listening to the radio broadcast of Louis' 1938 fight in which he knocked out Nazi Germany's Max Schmeling in the first round. His victory was important to me for many reasons, but the fact that Louis was from Detroit made his victory extra special.

The following is a copy of the press release issued by Arlington National Cemetery of the event.

What: Joe Louis Wreath-Laying Ceremony

When: Wednesday, April 12, 2006, 10:30 a.m.

Where: Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA, Section 7A, (Below the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier).

Joe Louis, former heavyweight champion of the world, will be remembered by his son, Joe Louis Barrow, Jr., along with several dignitaries and family members, during a wreath-laying ceremony on the 25th anniversary of his passing. The ceremony will be held at Arlington National Cemetery where Louis is buried just below the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Louis, considered by many as the greatest boxer of all times, died on April 12, 1981 in Las Vegas, NV. Born in Chambers County, Alabama, Louis grew up in Detroit, Michigan. He became the World Heavyweight Championship in 1937 and held the title until 1949, a record 11 years 8 months. Louis defended his title a record 25 times and defeated his opponents 5 times in first round knockouts, also a record.

His most memorable bouts were with German Max Schmeling. Louis took a devastating defeat early in his career, losing to Schmeling in a 12th round knockout in their first encounter in 1936. After winning the title by defeating James J. Braddock on June 22, 1937, Louis and Schmeling met again on June 22, 1938 before 78,000 fans in New York Yankee Stadium. Louis, wanting to erase the cloud on his championship from his earlier defeat, delivered a stunning knockout of Schmeling in two minutes and four seconds of the first round. With that victory, Louis transcended from Heavyweight Champion to American Hero. In 1981 President Ronald Reagan granted the request to have Louis buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Louis served in the U.S. Army during World War II and achieved the rank of staff sergeant.

April 12, 2006 will be a day when America and the world will pause to acknowledge the impact of an African American born to sharecroppers in Alabama, growing up in the inner city of Detroit who rose to the pinnacle of his career. In doing so Louis provided hope to an entire generation of Black Americans and simultaneously challenged a segregated United States to question limiting the rights of its citizens based on the color of their skin.

## TRIBUTE TO THE MARION STATE BANK

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of Marion State Bank in Marion, TX.

The Marion State Bank was granted a State charter on October 26, 1906, 30 years after the establishment of Marion as a town. The Marion State Bank has operated for almost a century without changing ownership and has not merged with any other banking institutions, ranking it seventh in the State of Texas in terms of longevity, and one of the original 130 chartered banks in the State of Texas.

In addition, the Marion State Bank will celebrate its 100th anniversary with total assets of close to \$43 million. It has served as a major partner in the economic growth of the greater Marion community for a century which includes the communities of New Berlin, Marion, Zuehl, and Santa Clara. The bank has assisted farmers and ranchers to produce crops, buy cattle and land as the major economy of the 80-square-mile area that they have served for the past century.

The Marion State Bank stands as an exemplary banking institution that has provided the community with stability and commitment to the future of the citizens of the greater Marion community. The bank has weathered many outside influences and economic changes, but it stands today as a symbol of a home-owned bank that brings a sense of community in an ever-changing and fast-paced world.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to honor the 100th anniversary of Marion State Bank in the State of Texas.

## PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRANK SCOTT

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Frank Scott, whose story of personal and professional success should serve as an inspiration for us all.

Mr. Scott built his business empire after returning to Las Vegas from World War II where he had served as a second lieutenant in the Army in Japan. In the 1950s and 60s, Scott opened a wholesale building material company, operated a fixed base aircraft operation and founded Stocks Ready-Mix Concrete. In the 1970s, as chairman of the First Western Savings Association, Scott was credited with saving the bank from near financial ruin. And in 1983 Mr. Scott was named co-Convention Man of the Year by the Hotel Sales Management Association's Las Vegas Chapter. Scott was also the founder of the Plaza Hotel and Casino.

Frank Scott was a bank chairman, director of Nevada Power and president of the Greater Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce and the Nevada Resort Association. Additionally, Scott was a board member of the local Boy Scouts chapter, a UNLV trustee, a captain of the

Sheriffs Mounted Police and a board member of the Nevada Museum of Fine Arts.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to honor Frank Scott and his extraordinary career and I appreciate his efforts on behalf of the community. His death is a profound loss for the community and he will be greatly missed.

## IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC CHURCH

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the parish community of St. Andrew Catholic Church, as members and leaders celebrate 100 years of faith and hope throughout Cleveland's southwest side.

Throughout the past century, St. Andrew parish has served as a spiritual refuge, opening its doors to individuals and families in search of guidance, spirituality and peace.

The ministry of St. Andrew began in 1906, serving immigrant families who settled in Cleveland. Since that time, a number of pastors and parishioners have served as critical guides in the journey of the faithful at St. Andrew Church. Over the years, the parish community has evolved and grown, and has also survived numerous struggles and hardships.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of every past and current member and spiritual leader of St. Andrew Catholic Church. Despite hardship and adversity, St. Andrew Catholic Church continues to provide a haven of faith, guidance, renewal and support for hundreds of families and individuals, in the heart Cleveland and far beyond.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE LAS VEGAS WINGS CHAPTER OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS SOCIETY

**HON. JON. C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of a special group of American heroes, those that have received the Distinguished Flying Cross. I honor them today for their service and dedication to our great Nation.

The Distinguished Flying Cross was authorized by an act of Congress on July 2, 1926 and is awarded to any officer or enlisted member of the Armed Forces who has distinguished themselves during combat in support of operations by "heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight."

Since its creation the Distinguished Flying Cross has been awarded to some of America's greatest aviators and serves as a reminder of their heroic actions. This prestigious medal was first awarded to Charles A. Lindbergh, of the U.S. Army Corps Reserve, for his solo flight of 3,600 miles across the Atlantic in 1927. The first Distinguished Flying